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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/611,178	07/06/2000	Jack H. Chang	UNI-001	5599

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EXAMINER

HASHEM, LISA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2645

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/611,178	Applicant(s) CHANG, JACK H.	
	Examiner Lisa Hashem	Art Unit 2645	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 25-84 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 25-84 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-8 and 25-84 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,487,278 by Skladman et al, hereinafter Skladman.

Regarding claim 1, Skladman discloses a system for providing PBX-integrated unified messaging services on a wide-area network (see Abstract; Figs. 1a and 1b), comprising: a corporate communication platform or enterprise system that provides services to users within a predetermined enterprise, such as a business or government organization (Fig. 1b, 22) coupled to a switched backbone or Internet (Fig. 1, 56) via a router (col. 3, lines 60-67; col. 6, lines 6-7), integrated with a PBX or LDS (Fig. 1a, 48) via a PBX interface or PSTN (Fig. 1a, 62) (col. 3, lines 5-47), and comprising a slave message mailbox cache or voice-mail server (Fig. 1a, 50); and a plurality of system communication platforms or disparate messaging systems inherently coupled to said switched backbone (col. 3, lines 60-67; col. 6, lines 21-34), wherein one such system communication platform or unified messaging center (Fig. 1a, 26) comprises a master message mailbox or unified message server (Fig. 1a, 64), wherein said slave message mailbox cache is synchronized with said master message mailbox (col. 4, line 9 – col. 5, line 6).

Regarding claim 2, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said switched backbone is the Internet (col. 6, lines 6-7).

Regarding claim 3, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said PBX interface is inherently managed and controlled through program control, said program control established by using modules that make API calls to a programming interface (Fig. 4, 120), wherein said corporate communication platform can deliver a message to and receive a message from extensions defined within said PBX (col. 6, lines 29-34; col. 7, line 57 - col. 8, line 32).

Regarding claim 4, please see the rejection of the system in claim 3, to reject the system in claim 4.

Regarding claim 5, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said corporate communication platform can command said PBX to activate a message waiting light on a PBX user's voice terminal equipment when a message for said PBX user is transmitted from said master message mailbox to said slave mailbox cache (col. 6, lines 20-34; col. 6, line 60 – col. 7, line 8; col. 11, line 57 – col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claims 6-8, please see the rejection of the system in claim 5, to reject the system in claims 6-8.

Regarding claims 25-32, please see the rejections of the system in claims 1-8, respectively, to reject the apparatus in claims 25-32.

Regarding claim 33, Skladman discloses a method of providing PBX-integrated unified messaging services to one or more individual subscribers associated with a corporate subscriber (business or government organization) (see Abstract; Figs. 1a and 1b), comprising: integrating a corporate communication platform or enterprise system that provides services to users within a

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predetermined enterprise, such as a business or government organization (Fig. 1b, 22) with said corporate subscriber's PBX system or LDS (Fig. 1a, 48) via a PBX interface or PSTN (Fig. 1a, 62) (col. 3, lines 5-47); coupling said corporate communication platform to a switched backbone or Internet (Fig. 1, 56) via a router (col. 3, lines 60-67; col. 6, lines 6-7) and inherently assigning a network identifier to said corporate communication platform (col. 4, lines 24-30; col. 8, lines 33-55); assigning said corporate communication platform to be serviced by a system communication platform accessible or unified messaging center (Fig. 1a, 26) via said switched backbone (col. 3, lines 60-67; col. 6, lines 21-34), wherein said corporate communication platform comprises a slave message mailbox cache or voice-mail server (Fig. 1a, 50) synchronized with a master message mailbox or unified message server (Fig. 1a, 64) on said system communication platform; initializing a network mailbox on said system communication platform for each said individual subscribers; and transmitting copies of all messages received at said system communication platform that correspond to each of said individual subscribers to said corporate communication platform (col. 4, line 9 – col. 5, line 6; col. 6, lines 21-34; col. 8, line 33 – col. 9, line 9).

Regarding claim 34, the method of claim 33, wherein Skladman further discloses said switched backbone is the Internet (col. 6, lines 6-7).

Regarding claim 35, the method of claim 33, wherein Skladman further discloses said PBX interface is inherently managed and controlled through program control, said program control established by using modules that make API calls to a program interface (Fig. 4, 120), wherein said corporate communication platform can deliver a message to and receive a message from extensions defined within said PBX (col. 6, lines 29-34; col. 7, line 57 - col. 8, line 32).

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Regarding claim 36, please see the rejection of the method in claim 35, to reject the method in claim 36.

Regarding claim 37, the method of claim 33, wherein Skladman further discloses said corporate communication platform can command said PBX to activate a message waiting light on a PBX user's voice terminal equipment when a message for said PBX user is transmitted from said master message mailbox to said slave mailbox cache (col. 6, lines 20-34; col. 6, line 60 – col. 7, line 8; col. 11, line 57 – col. 12, line 15).

Regarding claims 38-40, please see the rejection of the method in claim 37, to reject the method in claims 38-40.

Regarding claim 41, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said unified messaging includes voice messaging (col. 3, lines 14-16; col. 3, lines 31-35; col. 6, lines 35-59; see Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 42, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said unified messaging includes voice messaging and fax messaging (col. 3, lines 14-16; col. 3, lines 31-35; col. 6, lines 35-59; see Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 43, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said unified messaging includes voice messaging and e-mail messaging (col. 3, lines 14-16; col. 3, lines 31-35; col. 6, lines 35-59; see Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 44, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said unified messaging includes voice messaging, fax messaging, and e-mail messaging (col. 3, lines 14-16; col. 3, lines 31-35; col. 6, lines 35-59; see Fig. 4).

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Regarding claim 45, the system of claim 1, wherein Skladman further discloses said unified messaging includes fax messaging and e-mail messaging (col. 6, lines 35-59; see Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 46, the system of claim 2, wherein Skladman further discloses said PBX is inherently selected from a group consisting of analog PBXs, digital PBXs, Centrex PBXs and Internet Protocol ("IP") PBXs (col. 3, lines 31-47).

Regarding claims 47-69, please see the rejection to claim 46 above, to reject claims 47-69.

Regarding claims 70-77 and 78-84, please see rejections to claims (system: 1-8 and 46-52, apparatus: 25-32 and 54-60, method 33-40 and 62-68) above, respectively, to reject the apparatus in claims 70-77 and 78-84.

Response to Arguments

3. All items addressed in the Amendment filed 11-18-2004 (hereinafter, the Amendment), not mentioned below are acknowledged by the Examiner.

4. Applicant's arguments, see the Amendment, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-8 and 25-84 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Skladman. Please see all rejections above.

5. Accordingly, this action is **NON-FINAL**.

Conclusion

6. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or call:

(571) 272-2600 (for customer service assistance)


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lisa Hashem whose telephone number is (571) 272-7542. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LH

lh
April 16, 2005


FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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